

OUR TOWN

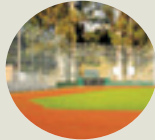
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

WINTER 2009



5

Large Animal
Rescue Class



6

Purissima
Park Grand
Opening



7

Town
Picnic



9

Historical
Committee
Activated



Since the sixth century, the Ohlone Indians were the first inhabitants of what is now Los Altos Hills. The Ohlone survived on the area's abundant supply of natural plant and animal life. Using spears, nets and fishing baskets, they caught fish along the the coast and inland creeks.

The Ohlone wove beautifully designed baskets out of willow branches and plants. The weaving was so intricate that the baskets could hold water and were used for mixing food and cooking.



Adobe Creek Restored

When the Ohlone Indians still lived along Adobe Creek, it had stable banks with little erosion, and it rarely flooded – only after the worst storms that might occur once every few decades. But subsequent settlers covered much of the land with roofs, driveways and tennis courts. Increased run-off after rain storms caused peak flow in the creek to creep up year after year. At first the change was barely noticeable, but eventually individual creek side residents found it increasingly necessary to repair erosion to the creek banks in their back yards. The banks had to be restored and the soil protected from being washed away. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.]

One resident might counteract erosion of his backyard by means of a creek sidewall of wooden planks. But this would cause the water to go through his backyard just that little bit faster and trigger slightly more serious erosion immediately downstream — so the second neighbor in turn would fix the problem in his backyard with a cinderblock wall. Which of course sped up the water flow even more and caused slightly more serious problems for the next neighbor downstream, who...

After some decades of slow degradation, Adobe Creek became a real problem — and any semblance of “natural” had long been lost. Both banks were now a hodge-podge of poured concrete, cinder block, gunnite, rip-rap, and wooden walls



Previous page: New native vegetation (different plants represented by different colored flags) in the restored, and now naturally stable, creek in January 2009.

Above: A view of a section of the creek as it existed in 2002. Six-foot high walls of concrete and cinder block line the creek. It was in need of constant maintenance and prone to flooding backyards.

evaluate design details. Specific objections by individual affected homeowners were tackled and hammered on until consensus could be reached. And eventually it all came together to where work started in spring 2008 and was completed a year later.

The most impacted part of the creek (just downstream of Edith Bridge) has now been restored as close as possible back to its original character. Once again it is a gentle meandering creek, but now much wider, and interspersed with a series of energy-dissipating step pools to cater to the increased peak water-flow that we can expect once every five or ten years.

Some of our other creeks in town are showing signs of a similar fate. If we can learn our lesson about what happens when

Instead of the Water District designing a solution based solely on their own policies and engineering expertise — only to have the residents reject it soundly as before — a collaborative was formed of all the interested stakeholders.

as each neighbor battled erosion and flooding on a piece-meal basis, while at the same time exacerbating the problem for his downstream neighbors. What had been a pleasant meandering creek bed was now a deep gorge hemmed in on both sides by hardscape of various kinds.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District, whose task it is to control flooding and erosion, put forth a plan — one that involved draconian measures and impacted every homeowner along the affected part of the creek as well as Edith Park. Residents banded together and managed to persuade our town council to reject the plan — but the residents were no further ahead — and the problem didn't get any better.

Not long after, however, the residents and the water district agreed to work towards a solution by means of a collaborative effort.

Instead of the Water District designing a solution based solely on their own policies and engineering expertise — only to have the residents reject it soundly as before — a collaborative was formed of all the interested stakeholders. The residents, the Water District, the City of Los Altos, The Town of Los Altos Hills, The Corps of Engineers, State Fish and Game, the Water Quality Control Board and the EPA all came together to hammer out a solution agreeable to all.

This collaborative labored for nearly five years with monthly meetings and workshops.

Eight different designs were successively refined over time. Computer simulations of differing flows were analyzed and storm limits evaluated, independent experts of international renown were consulted and asked to

development is allowed to increase storm run-off, and homeowners take bank-protection into their own hands, we may yet avoid a similar fate on the Matadero, Purissima, Barron, or any of the other creeks that run through our town.

This stretch of the Adobe Creek was “saved” by a unique set of circumstances where the right people came together in a collaborative effort that stretched over many years, and was successful in large part due to the unique mix of personalities who kept at it through thick and thin. We may not be so lucky the next time.

Jitze Couperus, Susan Mandle, Members of the Adobe Creek Collaborative. Photos by Jitze Couperus.



Tony Ndah, Project Manager with the SCVWD, managed the implementation of the project.



Residents insisted that the final design accommodate saving all the mature Redwoods lining the creek banks.



TO LEARN MORE:

Visit www.lahopenspace.com/Adobe5 for the extensive collection of documents covering the history of this project.

DEAR NEIGHBORS,

The Community Relations Committee is charged with the responsibility to produce the newsletter at least twice per year or more frequently. Starting with this issue, you will find that we have reinvented the town newsletter, now named "Our Town." Recently, the Town had its website professionally designed to make it easy to navigate and to enhance its aesthetics. We felt that, after 33 years, it was also time to revitalize the Town's newsletter.

Designed by resident and award-winning graphic designer, Alexander Atkins, the newsletter is more inviting, engaging, and informative. Throughout the year we will be adding new departments and features, specifically written for each issue, so that you can get to know your town and neighbors better. By connecting people and ideas, we hope to further unify the community and make life in Los Altos Hills more meaningful.

On behalf of the Community Relations Committee and colleagues that work on the newsletter, we thank you for your support and look forward to your feedback (duffy@duffysmail.com).

Kindest thanks,
Duffy Price, Editor

FROM THE CITY MANAGER

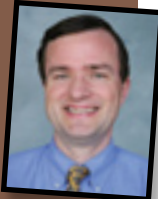
Banner Year for Town Projects

Last year was a banner year for the Town in terms of new public works projects completed on budget and on time. These projects are now in the final stages of completion.

- Purissima Park, the crown jewel of the Town's park and recreation assets, is tentatively scheduled for grand re-opening celebration on March 15th in concert with the Little League's Opening Day ceremony. Purissima Park has been made over to include four world class Little League baseball fields, a basketball half court, a perimeter pathway, a new ADA compliant restroom facility and other amenities all designed to create a more park-like atmosphere. New overflow parking is being established using a portion of the Town corporation yard.
- The Town is putting finishing touches on the El Monte & Moody Road/ Foothill College Pathway including restorative landscape work along the Adobe Creek riparian corridor where it runs through the College.
- The Town completed the Pine Lane Lift Station sanitary sewer diversion project, which reduces maintenance expenses and frees up additional capacity for residents in the Los Altos sewer basin.
- The Town also completed two major overhead utility line undergrounding projects on Purissima & Viscaino Road and Altamont Road. Utility companies are now working to remove their lines.
- In December 2008, we welcomed David Keyon as the new Assistant Planner to the Planning Department. An interview with David will be in the June Newsletter.

Under the current economic conditions, 2009 promises to be a more subdued year in terms of new public works projects. Smaller pathway projects are in the planning stages and the Town is preparing two major road rehabilitation projects in the event that the Town becomes eligible for Federal economic stimulus funds. Another project under preparation is for the seismic retrofit of the Westwind Barn. According to structural engineering testing conducted last year, the oldest and most historic portion of the Barn is constructed primarily of un-reinforced masonry. Once bids are received, the Council will review the Town's balance sheet and make a determination on whether to proceed with this project. The no-project alternative would likely result in the Barn being closed to public use in order for the Town to minimize its liability.

Carl Cahill, City Manager



FROM THE PLANNING DIRECTOR

Housing Element Update and Second Unit Survey

The Town is currently in the process of updating the General Plan Housing Element, which will cover a seven-year planning period from 2007 through 2014. The Housing Element is part of the General Plan, a comprehensive, long-term planning document which guides the physical development of the Town. As required by State law, the Housing Element must provide goals, policies, and programs to preserve and develop housing to meet the Town's fair share of regional housing needs.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation, 2007-2014

California	SF Bay Area	Santa Clara County	Los Altos Hills
1,650,000	214,500	60,338	81

Earlier this year, the City Council formed a Housing Element Subcommittee to help develop housing policies and programs that meet State requirements and fit with the Town's General Plan. In the past, one of the key programs that the Town used to help meet its regional share of affordable housing needs was the Secondary Unit Program. Secondary units, also known as granny units, provide a valuable source of affordable housing in the Town's otherwise above-moderate housing make-up. In 2002, the Town was able to utilize information obtained from a Townwide survey to confirm the success of the secondary unit program as a form of affordable housing options for the community.

For the current Housing Element update, the Town will continue to rely on secondary units to meet its affordable housing needs. In the next few weeks, a survey will be sent to Town residents to gather updated information including the range of rental rates for these units. When you receive the survey in the mail, please take a few moments to complete the information and return it to the Planning Department. We hope you will participate in this very important project. Your help is greatly appreciated.

In addition, the Town will be holding public meetings in the coming months to solicit input on the Housing Element. New material will be posted on the Town's website as it is developed so please check www.losaltoshills.ca.gov for updates.

Debbie Pedro, Planning Director



GreenWaste Recovery Lives Up to Its Laurels

It has been four months since GreenWaste Recovery has taken over refuse collection in Los Altos Hills. The change-over from Los Altos Garbage Co. has gone smoothly as witnessed by the many favorable comments and the lack of any significant complaints. At a substantial cost savings, GreenWaste's reliable and professional services have been enhanced by weekly collections of recyclables and yard waste instead of bi-weekly, as was done by its predecessor, Los Altos Garbage Co.

GreenWaste truly has the green "religion." For the past three months, 95% of curbside recyclables wound up being recycled, up from about 60% compared to its predecessor. More important, 85% of the combined garbage and yard waste is now being recycled. Previously, all garbage was going straight to the landfill. GreenWaste is very conscious of where recycled materials are being shipped, especially hazardous materials, which other U.S. recyclers often sell to unscrupulous highest bidders. With their newly installed photo voltaic solar installation, GreenWaste now generates about a third of their energy used to run their new recycling plant. They have also innova-

tively found ways to recycle waste materials that before were going straight to the landfill.

Yard waste goes into the green tote, commingled recyclables into the blue tote and garbage + non-recyclables into the gray tote. These are three separate tote containers with wheels.

GreenWaste will combine yard waste and garbage (with non-recyclables thrown into the garbage) together in their truck after they pick them up.

GreenWaste's biggest challenges are bottles and plastic bags. The caps of these bottles should be removed and the contents dumped out before throwing both the bottles and the caps in the recycling totes. Plastic bags, mainly because of food contamination, are time-consuming to recycle and difficult to find a buyer. Also, recyclable glass, whether broken or not, should always be thrown into the recycling totes, not in the garbage totes since broken glass is hard to remove when the combined garbage plus yard trimming are processed into compost.

Jay Shideler, Chair, Environmental Initiatives Committee



COEXISTING WITH THE WILY COYOTE

**Wednesday, March 18, 2009
(7:00-9:00 pm)
Council Chambers at Town Hall**

The LAH Open Space Committee, together with Hidden Villa and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, is sponsoring another evening program in its series, Living with Wildlife.

Camilla Fox, author, filmmaker, wildlife consultant and Director of Project Coyote, will present Coexisting with the Wily Coyote, a program to inform residents how best to discourage coyotes from getting too close and too familiar—for both our own and the coyotes' safety. Seating is limited. Please RSVP Nancy at 650-941-4808 or couperus@mindspring.com.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SPRING PLANT SALE

**Saturday, April 4, 2009
(10:00 am-3:00 pm)
Hidden Villa Ranch**

Don't miss this opportunity to purchase hard-to-find California native plants, seeds, and bulbs. Make your garden water-wise, beautiful, and bird-friendly by introducing natives. Experts will be on hand to answer your questions. Sale proceeds support the local CNPS chapter.



ANNUAL LAH EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

**Sunday, April 19, 2009
(1:00-4:00 pm)
Westwind Barn**

The LAH Open Space Committee is again sponsoring the Town's annual Earth Day Celebration at Westwind Barn. Leopards, Etc. will do their outstanding presentation of Wild Cats at 1:30 pm and 3:00 pm, giving everyone a chance to see these magnificent animals up close. There will be many other exhibits to keep the whole family interested, including wildlife groups and a special presentation of reptiles. A number of conservation groups and Town committees will also be on hand. This is a free event, intended to be both educational and fun.

Please do not bring dogs to this event. Very young children will need close supervision. For more information, contact Nancy at 650-941-4808.

SUDDEN OAK DEATH "SOD BLITZ"

**Saturday, May 9, 2009
(10:30 am-Noon)
Council Chambers at Town Hall**

Join in our SOD Blitz to find out if trees in your neighborhood have SOD and what can be done to protect your oaks. SOD has already made an impact on our community. Oaks are dying throughout the state. Timely detection of SOD on Bay trees can be key to slow the epidemic.

This free event starts with a Saturday training session, led by Berkeley SOD researcher, Dr. Matteo Garbelotto, to teach residents to recognize the signs of SOD on Bay Laurel trees.



Residents will then collect leaf samples on their own and return them to Town Hall on Monday.

Returned samples will be tested at Berkeley and a map of SOD in the area created. A follow-up meeting will discuss the results and SOD management options. Collection materials and testing are provided free. For more information call 650-815-8286 or visit the web site: <http://nature.berkeley.edu/garbelotto/english/sodblitz.php>.

Horse Microchip Program

On April 18th from 9:00 am-1:00 pm at the Westwind Barn located at 27210 Altamont and on April 25th from 9:00 am-1:00 pm at the Los Altos Hills Town Arena there will be a horse microchip program for all horses in the Los Altos Hills area. The cost for micro chipping will be \$55 per horse. Veterinarians from Peninsula Equine will be on hand to provide this much-needed program for our citizens' horses. The microchip program is a pet identification system that is implanted into the horse, so that in case of a disaster large animals such as horses can be reunited with their owners. The microchip, approximately the size of a grain of rice, is implanted into a horse using a single-use syringe. The microchip contains a unique serial number that can be read using a radio frequency scanner. Once the serial number has been detected and read by the scanner, the horse can be traced to the owner and reunited.

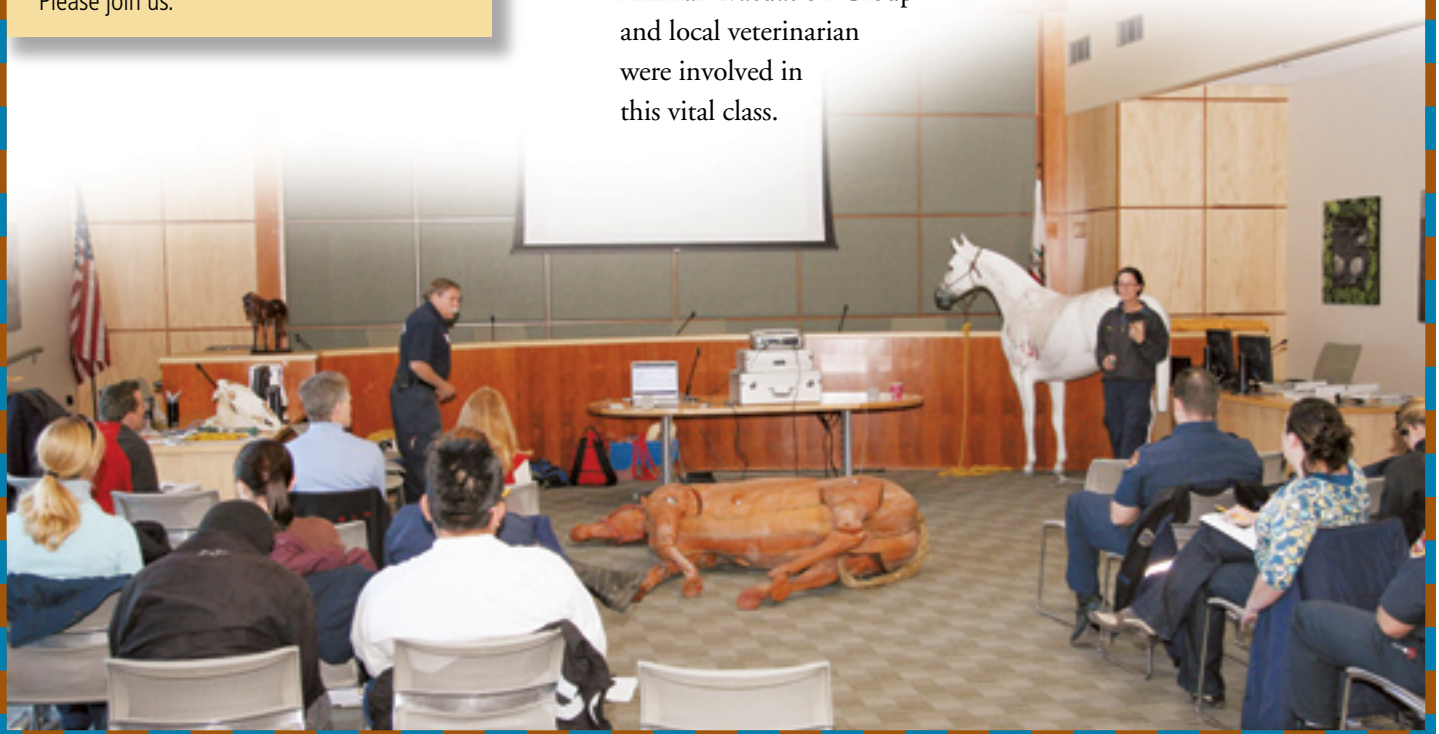
If you would like more information about this program contact Steve Garcia Town of Los Altos Hills Public Safety Officer, 650-941-7222, or Mike Sanders Emergency Services Coordinator Santa Clara County Fire Department, 650-922-1055.

Los Altos Hills Horsemen's Association

Regular LAHHA Planning Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 pm. Location of LAHHA Meetings will vary this year. Call Bob Garcia, 650-941-3826, or Jolon Wagner, 650-917-1975. Please join us.

LARGE Animal Rescue CLASS

On January 10 & 11, 2009 the Los Altos Hills County Fire District hosted a Large Animal Rescue class, held at Town Hall and the Fremont Hills Country Club Stables and attended by County Fire personnel assigned to the Los Altos Hills area. The rescue of large animals and the training for such rescues is a hazardous activity, which poses a risk of serious injury or death to large animals and their rescuers. The Large Animal Rescue Company, primarily Felton Fire Department personnel, were the lead instructors for the State Fire Marshall approved class. This 2-day class covered horse behavior, how to remove a horse from an overturned trailer, rope and rigging systems and many other rescue related activities involving large animals. Large Animal Rescues simulations were performed the second day that included safely removing a horse that had been trapped in a ditch and the removal of an injured horse from an overturned horse trailer. Members of the Santa Clara County Fire Department and citizens from our Large Animal Evacuation Group and local veterinarian were involved in this vital class.



PURISSIMA PARK GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

The Town of Los Altos Hills broke ground on a \$1.3M renovation of the newly re-named Purissima Park on Monday, August 25th. A grand re-opening ceremony at Purissima Park is planned for spring. The City Council of Los Altos Hills approved the renovation project in December 2007 as part of a major commitment to upgrade and improve the Town's parks and recreation assets. The project included major upgrades to the drainage and irrigation systems and parking lot areas. It added more park-like features including picnic tables, a sport court, safety fencing, improved landscaping and a new ADA compliant restroom facility. For more information, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 650-941-7222.



PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS

The Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce its newest camp, "A Touch of the Earth Ohlone Day Camp." Keith Gutierrez, the former instructor of the highly popular Redwood Grove camps in Los Altos, will teach these camps.

Keith has been teaching environmental education for 30 years. He uses his skills, talents, and vast knowledge of nature and Native Americans to teach children about the history of California and the care of our earth. Keith fills his camps with a variety of hands-on activities, along with music to ensure that everyone who participates in his camps leaves with the memory of a thoroughly fun and educational experience.

OTHER LOS ALTOS HILLS PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS:

- Horseback Riding Camps & Classes
- "Gourd-geous" Birdhouses by Ginger Summit
- Grow a Giant Pumpkin! Be the Envy of Your Neighborhood!
- "Music Around the World" Language Immersion Classes
- Youth Cooking Classes by Young Chef's Academy
- Camp Shoreline & Windsurfing
- Pathways Run 5k/10k on May 9
- Hoppin' Hounds Easter Biscuit Hunt on April 11
- And much more.

For more info or to register, visit www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/recreation or call 650-941-7222.

12TH ANNUAL LOS ALTOS HILLS

TOWN PICNIC



Mark your calendar now for the Twelfth Annual Town Picnic on June 7, from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm, at the newly renamed Purissima Park (formerly known as the Little League fields, on Purissima Road at the intersection with Viscaino Road). The Picnic features lots of entertainment, games and other attractions, as well as a free lunch. All Los Altos Hills residents and Town staff are invited to this free event.

Delicious chicken, all-beef hot dogs and vegetarian meals will be cooked by our terrific firefighters from Santa Clara County Firefighters Local #1165, and served with Firefighters Chili, tossed salad, and garlic bread. Soft drinks, beer, wine and ice cream sundaes will be available.

To provide variety, this year's picnic will feature some new attractions, as well as the return of some favorites from past picnics. There will be a great band, a



fascinating entertainer, a classic car show, several large inflatable attractions, Lionel model trains, volleyball, children's contests, pony rides and crafts.



Watch for the picnic flier with a registration coupon that will be mailed to all Town residents in early May. Advance registration by May 26 is required so the correct number of meals may be ordered. Tables, chairs, and many large canopies will be provided, so rain or hot weather do not cancel the picnic.

Roy Woolsey, Chair, Community Relations Committee





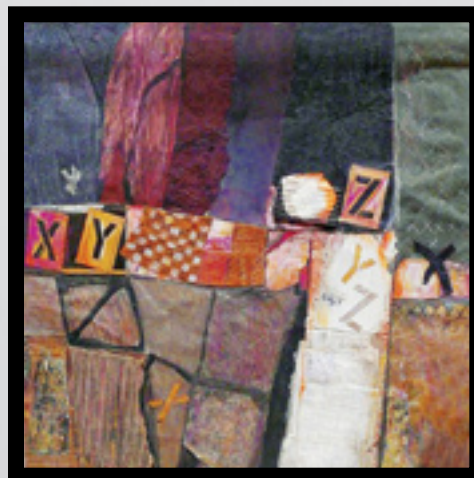
MIKE WANG

Mike Wang is a Bay Area artist specializing in contemporary realism paintings. In recent years his works have been exhibited in a number of local and national shows. They have won awards at statewide competitions and been juried into highly selective national group shows. His "Life on the Edge" series explores distant culture and how its old traditions meet modern life. With people and places of Tibet as a backdrop, these narrative paintings are influenced by social realism styles.

The public is invited to Wang's show that opens on Sunday, March 22 at Town Hall. Reception is from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. The public is also invited to a descriptive walking tour of his paintings on Thursday, June 4, 11:00 am to noon.

KAREN DRUKER

The painting (right), "The X, Y, Z of It," by Karen Druker, Curator of Art for The Town of Los Altos Hills, was recently accepted into an exclusive statewide Watermedia Exhibition at the Triton Museum in Santa Clara. Druker also had two paintings accepted into a recent juried show at the Tait Museum in Los Gatos, and her mixed media painting "Upheavals" won an Honorable Mention. All the paintings are from recent series in which Druker seeks understanding of the universal to personal vagaries of life and love. Druker has lived in Los Altos/Los Altos Hills since 1974, and has been painting since 2001, when she retired from her catering and event planning business. Professionally, she organizes watermedia painting workshops offered through the Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society.



Morgan Manor/Lantarnam Hall

Lantarnam Hall, named after the town of Llantarnam, Wales, was designed by Bay Area architect John Powers for Percy Morgan, a highly influential Stanford University trustee descended from Welsh immigrants, and his wife Daisy, and completed in 1916. Percy Morgan and his wife purchased 132 acres in Los Altos Hills for a country retreat and built a manor patterned after Speke Hall in England.

Subsequent owners included flamboyant restaurateurs Gerald and Gypsy Buys, whose bid to make the house a private club was denied. In the 1950's John Carter Ford purchased the house, neglected and abandoned, for use as a day school. In 1999 the house became a private residence again.

John Ralston, program director of

Los Altos Hills Historical Society, will tell about the life of Percy Morgan (1862-1920), businessman and Stanford University trustee, who helped restructure the university's financial system, and how and why he built the mansion. John will also tell about the famous – and infamous – persons who have occupied the house since.

Please join us at the quarterly meeting of the Los Altos Hills Historical Society, Sunday April 26, 2009, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Los Altos Hills Town

Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills. Refreshments will be served after the program.

For information about Los Altos Hills Historical Society, please visit our web site <http://www.losaltoshillshistory.org>, or call 650-565-9065.

*John Ralston, LAHHS
Program Director-*



History Committee Activated

In 2008, instead of a Town Historian, the Town created a History Committee, composed initially of Bill Downey, Les Earnest, Mary Anne Malcolm, Tom McReynolds and Bob Stutz, with Barbara Packard as Associate Member. The first assigned task was to recommend a street name in a new subdivision. The Committee did that and carried it a step further by also recommending names for an existing unnamed street and two of the more scenic Town pathways.

On August 28, 2008 the Council approved the following new names.

- Morrison Court in the new subdivision east of Purissima Road opposite the north end of Elena, named for the family that resided on this tract for many years.
- Margit Way – crossing a corner of Byrne Preserve to reach Westwind Barn, named for Hungarian Countess Margit Besseney, who donated the Barn and some adjacent lands to the Town.
- Packard Path from Taaffe Road to Elena Road along the edge of the former residential

property of David and Lucile Packard, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard and major philanthropists.

- Wallace Stegner Path from Three Forks Lane to Edgerton Road, named for the world famous author who lived for many years just uphill from that path.

The Committee has since been cataloging the Town's substantial collection of historical artifacts, including aerial and ground photos, artwork, and many newspaper articles, and is also cataloging historical sites in Town or nearby. You are invited to donate artifacts related to the Town's history—please contact Town Clerk Karen Jost at Town Hall (650-941-7222) or at kjost@losaltoshillshistory.org.

The Committee plans to digitize important graphical materials and to expand the historical part of the Town web site. The Committee also recommends that a small museum be created to display historical artifacts.

Les Earnest, Member, History Committee

Education Committee

The Los Altos Hills Education Committee has been hard at work this fall since the City Council approved its revised mission statement in October. The committee's mission is to preserve, support and promote public education opportunities for the residents of Los Altos Hills.

Anne Marie Gallagher assumed the role of Committee Chair in September. Since then, the committee has doubled in size and includes the following Los Altos Hills residents:

Bart Carey
Anne Marie Gallagher
Irena Halsey
Lee Hartely
Duncan Mac Millan
John Radford
Eric Ramberg
Susan Stark
Dean Warshawsky, *Town Council Liaison*

These diverse members have children enrolled in public schools in Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, as well as eight preschool-aged children. They bring a variety of viewpoints and a forward-looking commitment to public education to every meeting.

This fall, the Education Committee received an update on the proposed Bullis Charter School Middle School, and it decided to continue ongoing property tax/census data collection activities that quantify LAH spending on public education. In the coming months, the committee hopes to consolidate and provide descriptions of all public education options for Town residents based on their property location.

The Education Committee meets regularly on the first Friday of each month at 4pm at Town Hall. Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance. Please join us.

BULLIS CHARTER SCHOOL

Auction



BCS is hosting its annual auction on March 28th at the beautiful Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. Vegas style gaming and silent auction will start at 6:00 pm followed by dinner, live auction and dancing. The auction raises funds for the school's diverse enrichment curriculum. The majority of auction items are services and goods donated by parents and local businesses. Please join us! Tickets are \$98 per person, \$135 after March 1st. Please contact rsvp@bullischarterschool.com for questions or further information.

Parent Education

Eating Disorders - What are They and Who is at Risk?

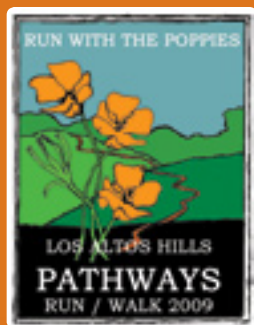
Dr. Pamela Carlton, a nationally recognized eating disorders specialist, author and BCS parent, will present this lecture. This informative evening will be held on Thursday, March 26 at 7:30 pm in the multi-purpose room at BCS, located at 102 West Portola Avenue, Los Altos. Free admission. Please contact rsvp@bullischarterschool.com for questions or further information.

Bye, Bye Birdie

The show takes a satirical look at American society set in 1958. The character, Conrad Birdie is based on Elvis Presley, whose draft into the army inspired the plot element. Please join us as students in grades 5 and 6 present this humorous and entertaining musical. Four performances will be held from April 9th through April 11th at BCS, located at 102 West Portola Avenue, Los Altos. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased in advance or at the door. Please contact rsvp@bullischarterschool.com for performances times and for any additional information.

Gardner Bullis School Valentine Auction

Gardner Bullis School (formerly Bullis-Purissima Elementary School) held its inaugural Valentine's Auction on February 7, 2009 at the Fremont Hills Country Club. Guests dined on heavy hors d'oeuvres compliments of First and Main restaurant and bid on exciting vacation packages, parties, and sporting events donated by local families and merchants. Among the items up for bid were a catered dinner for 16 at the Stonebrook Court mansion in Los Altos Hills, plenty of Valentine's jewelry, and the opportunity for a child to serve as "Principal for a Day" at Gardner Bullis. "These events are only successful because the entire community decides to come together in support of public school education. We had amazing donors to make it memorable, and parents attending and bidding to be part of meeting the fundraising goal," said Crysta Krames, Auction Chair.



8TH ANNUAL LAH PATHWAYS RUN/WALK

On Saturday, May 9, 2009 there will be a benefit run/walk event for the Town of Los Altos Hills, Department of Parks & Recreation. The LAH Pathways Run/Walk will consist of a 5K & 10K run/walk that starts at 9:00 am and a 1-mile Kids fun run that starts at 10:30 am. Both events start and finish at Westwind Barn, 27210 Altamont Road.

The 5K/10K and 1-mile fun run are both hilly and scenic trail courses on Los Altos Hills pathways through beautiful Byrne Preserve. Both events are open to runners or walkers of any age. Water stations, race numbers, T-shirts, unique awards and snacks will all be provided.

The theme for this year's run is "Run with the Poppies" as the pathways and Los Altos Hills will be covered with golden poppies from a town wide Poppy planning project.

Registration is available on-line on Active.com at: http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1661732

Or mail-in registration forms are available for download from the Pathways Run website at: <http://www.lahpathways.org/RegistrationFlyer2009.pdf>

Other race information can be found on website at: <http://www.lahpathways.org>

For additional information on the run or if you are interested in helping to sponsor the race or donate items for the race raffle or volunteer for registration or water tables, please call the race director Scott Vanderlip at 650-948-6455 or by email at scott@inet-sciences.com. We always need help to run this community event.

GET READY TO RELAY

Join with your friends and family on June 20-21, 2009, for the sixth annual Relay for Life of Los Altos/Los Altos Hills 2009, at the Los Altos High School Track. The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is a 24-hour community gathering where everyone can join in the fight against cancer by walking to raise funds for research, education, advocacy, and patient services. Since 2004, we have raised over \$2 million in our local relay. Form a team or join a team. Survivors sign up for the Opening Survivors' Lap. Donate luminaria. Register at www.relayforlife.org/losaltosca or contact Julian Cervantes for more information at 650-941-1111 or jcervantes@apr.com. Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.

CALENDAR

March

8
Sunday, 2:00-4:00 pm
Meet Your Elected Official's Event
 Sponsored by League of Women Voters; Mountain View – Los Altos Chapter; Garden House, Shoup Park- Los Altos; Info: 650-941-4846

14
Saturday, 11:00 am
Trail Ride
 Tour the hills, searching for signs of spring. Meet at Town Arena for warm-up.



18
Wed., 7:00-9:00 pm
Coexisting with the Wily Coyote
 Council chambers at Town Hall. RSVP 650-941-4808.



28
Sat., 1:00-3:00 pm
Home Barn Management Class
 Learn almost everything you'll need to know about basic "backyard" horse care from shelter and feed to manure management and first aid. Designed for parents that intend to make their children's dreams come true or individuals that have only dreamed of owning a horse. Free. Pre-registration required: Call 650-917-1975. 26786 Robleda Court, Wagner Barn.

April

11
Saturday, 11:00 am
Trail Ride Warm-up at the Town Arena.
 Weather permitting, ride to Arastradero Preserve/Rosotti's. Organized by LAHAH.



19
Sunday, 1:00-4:00 pm
Earth Day Celebration at Westwind Barn
 Exhibits and Leopards, ETC. Wild Cat show at 1:30 pm and 3:00 pm; No Charge. Info: 650-941-4808.

25
Sat., 9:30 am-3:00 pm
Arena Work-Day at the Town Arena site
 Bring work gloves and handyman tools. Info: Bob: 650-941-3826 or Mike: 650-917-1975



May

16
Saturday, 10:20 am
Los Altos Pet Parade
 2-3 persons are needed for the "clean-up crew." Info: 650-917-1975. Well behaved horses, only. Meet at the corner of Burke & Fremont Roads.



June

7
Sunday, 1:00-4:30 pm
Town Picnic
 Watch for registration flyer in early May. Info: 650-941-7222

Town Newsletter Statement of Purpose

This is the official Town Newsletter to communicate current issues, services and activities in Los Altos Hills to the residents of the Town — to facilitate, encourage and improve interaction between the residents and the Town government. The newsletter is published quarterly. Deadline for the next issue is April 30, 2009.

Printed with soy-based inks. International Paper, the manufacturer of the paper, has earned Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Forestry Stewardship Council dual certification.

www.losaltoshills.ca.gov

Our Town

The Town Newsletter is published with assistance from our Town Volunteer Committees and a generous contribution from Alexander Atkins Design, Inc.

Editor: Dorothy Duffy Price

Associate Editors: Nancy Couperus, Linda Seidel, Joan Sherlock, Barbara Waldeck, Patty Woolsey, Roy Woolsey

Principal Photography: Jitze Couperus

Los Altos Hills City Council

Jean Mordo, Mayor
 Dean Warshawsky, Vice Mayor
 Breene Kerr
 Rich Larsen
 Ginger Summit



TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS
 26379 Fremont Road
 Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Presorted Standard
 U.S. Postage
 Paid
 Los Altos, CA
 Permit No. 306